

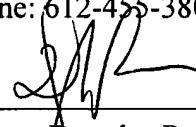
REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 2 and 3 have been written in independent form, and claim 1 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. The dependency of the remaining claims has been revised accordingly. As claims 2 and 3 were among the claim considered allowable, the prior art issue raised in the Office Action is rendered moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejection.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if any issues remain that prevent the allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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